



# THIS WEEK

GRACE COMMUNITY CHURCH, KAILUA KONA, HAWAII

## events

**Aloha!** Thank you for joining us this morning. If you would like to know us better, please visit the welcome table.

**Nursery and Kids' Church** are available. Parents, please sign-in your children at the nursery.

**GraceKona & KKO** invite you to our **Give Thanks Celebration**. Games, pie eating contest, and chili cook-off. Nov 19, 3-5 pm.

**Operation Christmas Child** boxes are due next Sunday.

**Food Drive** today.

**Let's play pickleball!** Thursday evening, Nov 17, 5:30 to 7 pm in the Pavilion.

**Medicare help?** See Nate.

### Ways to Give:

- Online on our website or app
- Giving box on Sundays
- Mail a check to the church

### Budget Snapshot Jan thru Oct

- Budgeted - \$283,333
- Actual Giving - \$279,623

**Andrew, Lead Pastor**

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**Kalehua, Ministry Assistant**

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**LouAnne, Children's Director**

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**Alex, Worship Director**

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**Andrew Severinsen**  
**Philippians 1:3-11**

**Big Idea:** Paul begins this personal letter by sharing his deep affection for this church family in Philippi. His joyful affection for them is rooted in their commitment to partnering with them (Paul and his companions) in the gospel. Then Paul describes the essence of what he prays for them, an extraordinary model of how we ought to pray.

- Paul's Thanksgiving (1:3-8)
- Paul's Prayer (1:9-11)

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## GRACE GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

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### What does it mean?

1. Why does Paul use the word "servant" to describe himself when he typically uses the word apostle? (compare with 1 Cor 1:1, 2 Cor 1:1, Gal 1:1, Eph 1:1, Col 1:1, 1 Tim 1:1, 2 Tim 1:1)
2. Paul addresses this letter to "all the saints in Christ Jesus . . . with the overseers and deacons" (Phil. 1:1). Look at the first couple of verses in other letters that Paul wrote to churches. What is unique about how he addresses the Philippians? What might be behind this?
3. Why might Paul specifically include overseers and deacons in v. 1?
4. Paul's various arrests, imprisonments, and trials stretch through eight chapters in the book of Acts (Acts 21–28). He writes Philippians while imprisoned, awaiting possible execution. Amazingly, his focus is squarely on the Philippians' welfare. Do you see any indication in Philippians 1:1–11 as to why and how Paul can focus on thankfulness, joy, and the welfare of others, instead of on his own hard circumstances?
5. What is Paul's relationship with the Philippians? Paul's language is extremely warm and personal in these verses (especially Phil. 1:3–5, 7–8). Why? Was it mere courtesy? Was it based on time spent together? Or was there a still deeper connection? (notice the connecting language in Phil. 1:5, 7, which introduces his stated reasons... "because... It is right... because... for...")
6. What idea is Paul trying to convey in v. 6? Who specifically is he talking about? Who is the "you"?
7. What does it mean to be a partaker of grace?
8. What stands out to you about Paul's prayer in vv. 9-11? Having looked at several of Paul's prayers, what things do you see Paul emphasizing in his prayers? What kinds of things is he praying for? Why? How might Paul's prayers differ from our prayers?

### How does it apply?

1. How do we exhibit joy in difficult circumstances?
2. How are we "partnering in the gospel"?
3. In Phil. 1:6, Paul assures the Philippians that their spiritual state is proof of God's "good work" in them. He also insists that if God "began a good work" in them, he "will bring it to completion." How might these statements be simultaneously confidence-building and pride-crushing?
4. Are we being "partakers"?
5. What is an example of implementing love "with knowledge and discernment"?
6. How is the love that Paul is trying to convey different than the love we often give?
7. How is God calling me to love differently?